

Claims:

1. A system for providing aggregate transactions for offerings from a plurality of sources over a network, comprising:

a user interface server;

5 a source interface server, the interface server including custom data transfer protocols for data exchange with the plurality of sources; and

a transaction server in communication with the user interface server and the source interface server, the transaction server receiving user requests for offerings from the plurality of sources through the user interface server and directing a plurality of purchase orders to the plurality of sources for fulfilling the user requests through the source interface server.

2. The system of claim 1, wherein the user interface server is one of a Web server, a wireless application server, a telephone server, and an interactive television server.

3. The system of claim 1, wherein the source interface server includes at least one of a data scraping protocol, a negotiated data transfer protocol, and a database access protocol for data exchange with the plurality of sources.

4. The system of claim 1, further comprising a system data source for storing transaction data related to the user service requests and the purchase orders to the plurality of sources made to fulfill the user service requests.

5 5. The system of claim 1, further comprising a source interface data source for storing data exchange protocols for the plurality of sources.

6. The system of claim 1, further comprising an offering data source for offerings from the plurality of sources.

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7. A system for providing electronic transactions with a plurality of sources for a user over a network comprising:

a search module for accessing data describing at least one offering available from at least one of a plurality of source systems;

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an ordering module for placing a plurality of orders to the plurality of source systems in response to at least one ordering transaction for at least one purchase item selected by one or more users.

8. The system of claim 7, wherein the search module includes at least one custom data transfer protocol for communicating with at least one of the plurality of

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source systems.

9. The system of claim 8, wherein the at least one custom data transfer
protocol includes at least one of a data scraping agent, an electronic data interface
5 protocol, and a database access protocol.

10. The system of claim 7, wherein the ordering module includes at least one
custom data transfer protocol for communicating with at least one of the plurality of
source systems.

11. The system of claim 10, wherein the at least one custom data transfer
protocol includes at least one of a data scraping agent, an electronic data interface
protocol, and a database access protocol.

12. The system of claim 7, further comprising a comparison module for
comparing products or services available from the plurality of source systems.

13. The system of claim 12, wherein the comparison module includes at least
one custom data transfer protocol for communicating with at least one of the
20 plurality of source systems.

14. The system of claim 13, wherein the at least one custom data transfer protocol includes at least one of a data scraping agent, an electronic data interface protocol, and a database access protocol.

5 15. The system of claim 7, further comprising a transaction management module communicating with the plurality of merchant systems for monitoring the status of a plurality of orders placed to the plurality of source systems.

10 16. The system of claim 15, wherein the transaction management module includes at least one custom data transfer protocol for communicating with at least one of the plurality of source systems.

15 17. The system of claim 16, wherein the at least one custom data transfer protocol includes at least one of a data scraping agent, an electronic data interface protocol, and a database access protocol.

20 18. A module library for assembling custom data transfer protocols for data exchange with a plurality of sources, comprising a plurality of base data transfer modules for customization according to the data exchange requirements of a source system.

19. The module library of claim 18, wherein the base data transfer modules include at least one search module.

20. The module library of claim 19, wherein the at least one search module is predefined to acquire data descriptive of a category of offerings.

21. The module library of claim 18, wherein the base data transfer modules include at least one comparison module.

22. The module library if claim 21, wherein the at least one search module is predefined to classify data descriptive of a category of offerings for comparison.

23. The module library of claim 18, wherein the base data transfer modules include at least one ordering module.

24. The module library of claim 23, wherein the at least one ordering module includes a register module.

25. The module library of claim 23, wherein the at least one ordering module includes a login module.

26. The module library of claim 23, wherein the at least one ordering module includes a purchase module.

27. The module library of claim 26, wherein the purchase module includes
5 protocols for batch exchange of order data for a plurality of user purchase orders.

28. The module of claim 23, wherein the at least one ordering module includes a status module.

10 29. The module of claim 28, wherein the status module includes protocols for batch exchange of status data for a plurality of user purchase orders.

30. The module of claim 18, wherein the base data transfer modules include at least on data update module for updating an aggregate offering database.

15 31. The module of claim 18, wherein the base data transfer modules include at least one of a data scraping protocol, an electronic data interface protocol, and a database query protocol.

20 32. A method of customizing data transfer protocols according to an analysis of source systems, comprising the steps of:

evaluating the data interface of a source system;
selecting a base data transfer module from a module library; and,
customizing the base data transfer module according to data
exchange standards in the data interface of the source system.

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33. The method of claim 32, further comprising the step of creating a template
of the data interface of the source system and wherein the step of customizing the
base data transfer module includes matching protocols to the template.

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34. The method of claim 32, wherein the base data transfer module includes at
least one of a data scraping protocol, an electronic data interface protocol, and a
database query protocol.

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35. The method of claim 32, wherein the base data transfer module includes at
least one of a search module, a comparison module, an ordering module, and a data
update module.

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36. The method of claim 32, wherein the base data transfer module is
predefined for data exchange for offering data related to a specific offering
category.